

The MACDONALD COLLEGE *Journal*⁺

I • No. 4

DECEMBER 1940



Farm • Home • School

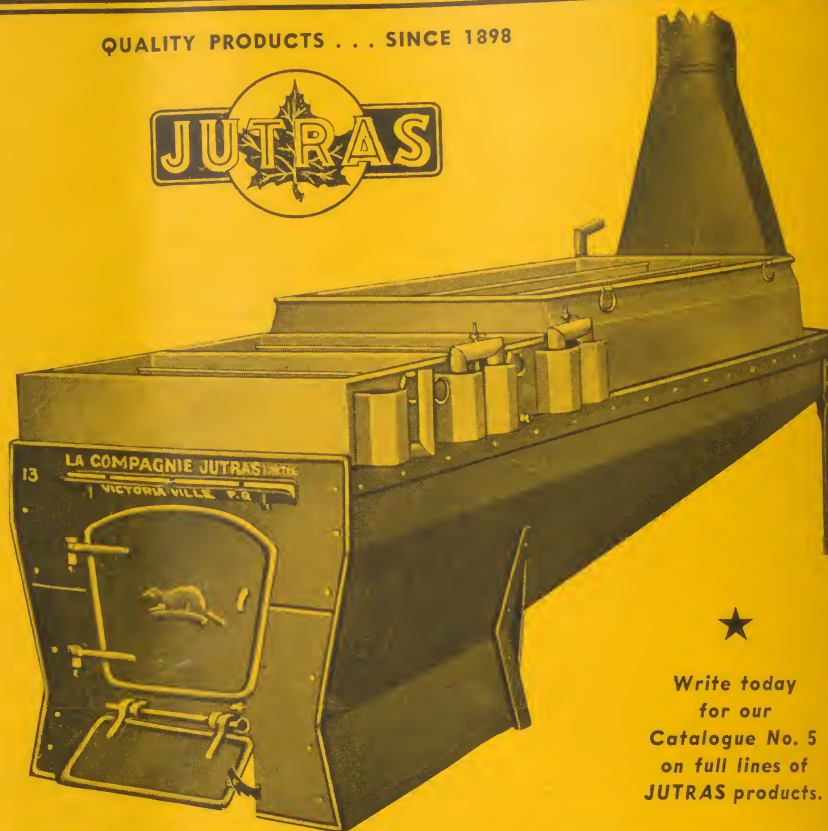
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MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL
should be addressed to

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Subscription rates — 50c per year

EDITORIAL COMMENT

A Merry Christmas

*If someone said on Christmas eve,
"Come see the oxen kneel
In the lonely barton by yonder coomb
Our childhood used to know."
I should go with him in the gloom
Hoping it might be so.*

—Hardy.

As the Journal extends a season's greeting to all its readers, we do so with a little envy for those who will spend Christmas in the country. It is in the country and on the farm that Christmas is best spent.

There may be some of our farm readers who will be surprised to have us say this. The gaily decorated stores and the lighted streets of the city may suggest to them the height of Christmas pleasure. But we insist. Give us a country road on a starlit Christmas eve, with the snow heavy on the trees. There is no finer setting for the real spirit of Christmas. The elements seem to conspire to remind us of the age-old story of new life that comes to the world.

Then, too, in the country, it is possible to take time for Christmas. Farm work itself is not so urgent. And of all celebrations Christmas needs time: time for mellowed friendships to become articulate again, for reminiscences of former years to be recalled, for stories to be read to the children — Dicken's *Christmas Carol* or *The Other Wise Man*; time for merry songs and gifts and feasting and games; time for the church service on Christmas morning and the quiet walk home; time for calls on old friends and laughter with young ones, — all these and many more. Some of these are possible, of course, in the cities, but on the whole they tend to be crowded out by the demands of business and the many distractions of city life.

GREAT NEED FOR CHRISTMAS — THIS YEAR

But wherever we spend it — in city or in country — there is need again, deeper need than ever perhaps, for the kindness and the cheer that Christmas always brings. This year there will be sad and lonely hearts among us, and hearts broken by loss of loved ones or well-loved homes. There will be many with hopes dashed and dreams crumbled, and all of us, our minds overcast with anxiety, will need the encouragement of Christmas time.

It will be harder this year to revive the hope in the Christmas message of "Peace and Goodwill". The Christmas wish, by itself, may seem a little empty unless we take special pains to give it thoughtful and considered expression. Many of us need to think again of its real meaning and the opportunity the season provides for the most practical kind of neighbourly help and understanding. All of our communities could be richer for the symbols of goodwill which would draw us together. It is the Journal's hope that as time goes on it may itself become one of those unifying forces. In this hope we extend to all our readers our sincere Christmas Greetings.



FARM PROBLEMS ON THE RADIO

Macdonald Pioneers in New Effort

The news that the C. B. C. was planning a series of broadcasts on Canadian Farm Problems (beginning January 31st) has been received with widespread interest and enthusiasm. That, preceding the series there is to be undertaken the most comprehensive scheme of radio education ever attempted in Canada is not so widely known. But this preliminary preparation of listeners for the programme is in itself one of the most significant recent developments in the radio field and promises to have far-reaching effects on education and citizenship as well. The possibilities of radio's contribution to the discussion of vital problems are only beginning to be recognized. For a long time radio was thought of mainly as an interesting and diverting toy. In the last few years its value as an agency of news has been recognized, but only very recently have we thought seriously of its use as a medium of education.

The basic material for the ten broadcasts to be given was prepared at Macdonald College last winter. Now the second step has been taken, and Macdonald has become the centre, for the province of Quebec at least, of the educational effort. A conference has just closed at the College, where some thirty selected farmers and agronomes received instruction on how to run "Radio Listening Groups". They came from widely separated parts of the province and spent four busy days in training for this important task. They were made acquainted with the method used for group discussion and under the direction of several college departments were able to investigate some of the problems that will be dealt with in the broadcasts.

They also planned the organization of Radio Institutes in the districts to which they have returned. These institutes



Members of the "Listening Group" Conference at Macdonald College.

will provide an opportunity of enlisting and training a number of leaders in each locality. They will serve the purpose of acquainting these local leaders with a complete plan of the subjects to be covered. The Institutes will also establish a contact with local leaders which will enable those in charge of the scheme to assist them in dealing with organizational difficulties.

Those who attended the conference seemed impressed by the value of this democratic way of mobilizing farm opinion for the purpose of attacking farm problems. Its ultimate object is to make definite plans for improvement of the farm situation which will be based on an understanding of the facts. That it is being attempted on a nation-wide scale makes its success assured.

FARM MANAGEMENT AND MECHANICS COURSES OFFERED

Two special short courses, one in Farm Mechanics and a second in Farm Management and Rural Organization, are being offered by Macdonald College in co-operation with the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Plan, beginning February 3rd, 1941. Each course will run for six weeks and, for those whose applications are accepted, the courses will be free, the expenses being borne jointly by the Provincial and Dominion governments. Men from the rural parts of the province who are not over thirty years of age are eligible.

The Farm Mechanics course will deal with a number of farm engineering problems and will include instruction in electricity, gas engines, farm machinery, farm buildings, ventilation, etc.

The course in Farm Management and Rural organization will be more general. It will take up practical problems such as farm book-keeping and records, the farm garden, storage of vegetables, etc. as well as the discussion of

problems of marketing, co-operation and community leadership.

Application forms for these courses may be obtained from the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Plan, Quebec; or from the Registrar, Macdonald College. Enrolment will be limited to 20 in the farm mechanics course and 30 in the course on farm management, so that those who are interested should apply early.

COURSE FOR RURAL WOMEN

A two-weeks course in Rural Education will begin at the College on February 3rd. This course is sponsored by the Department of Education and the registration will be limited to 20 women selected by the executive of the Women's Institute. The main emphasis of the course will be on a study of our school system but attention will also be given to the health and feeding of the school child and to community libraries and recreation.

The British Trade Agreements

by J. E. Lattimer

THE trade agreements, terms of which are set forth elsewhere in this issue, require explanation and comment. Indeed some current comments already to hand upon these agreements not only warrant discussion but make it necessary.

It is to be expected that in a country as large, and with as varied farming conditions as prevail in Canada, any arrangement for the country as a whole may be more popular in some sections than in others. This is, however, not the main reason for the need for this discussion. Already there has developed some criticism of the attitude of producers in Eastern Canada to the new contracts from other citizens. In the interests of *unity* so strongly stressed at the present moment this misunderstanding, to use the most charitable term possible, should be, if possible, cleared up.

The position in the priority list has a great deal to do with the terms of the treaty. Priority is a term in common use at present. It means an attempt to place first things first. It may apply to labour, exchange, or ships in the case of overseas trade. For some of these reasons or some combination of them a priority list of farm products has been issued but this does not mean that the relative position of the items may not be altered.

The present priority list places cheese in the third classification and bacon fourth. For these two items definite contracts have been made. There are other important quotas which all together are fairly important but which space will not allow to be discussed in detail.

Britain Wants More Cheese and Bacon

The new agreement increases the quantity provided in both cheese and bacon for the current season as compared with the previous year. In the case of cheese the price is slightly higher while for bacon the price is lower. The difference is not hard to understand if it is remembered that the object of future contracts in food supplies is to ensure the required amount and that some things have priority over others. Greater quantities of both cheese and bacon were sent overseas than were contracted for during the past year. Production of both products expanded, yet the expansion in proportion to the amount required was greater in the case of bacon than in cheese hence the price of one was lowered while that of the other was raised slightly.

Hog Production Increasing

It has been said that the price of bacon during the past year created something of a boom in hog-feeding. This is not a fair picture. The boom was well under way before the war started. This is shown by the number of hogs on farms in June 1940 as compared with the number at the same time in the previous year. The total number on farms on June 1st, 1940, for all Canada was 37 per cent more than on June 1st of the previous year. And the number of hogs



Freighter unloading at Port Williams, N.S.

over six months of age on June 1st, 1940, was 29 per cent more than that of the previous year. Those familiar with the business of raising pigs will understand that those over six months of age on June 1st, 1940, must have been "planned for" before the war started. The increase in production was well under way before the war started. Breeding records point to a further increase in supply for the coming year in Canada. This is one reason for the reduced price under the new contract.

Hog Prices

It has been also suggested that the new price will bring the price in Canada more in line with that prevailing in the United States, which may be considered as a freely competitive price. This also is only a very incomplete view. The prices of hogs in Canada and the United States have not been running very closely together for some years. Sometimes the price in Canada has been higher and sometimes lower than in the United States in prewar years. Price difference influences the quantity exchanged between the two countries but never seems to close off the trade entirely. For instance in the month of October 1940, the amount of bacon and ham exported to the United States is reported as 31,700 lbs. compared with 36,600 lbs. in the same month of the previous year. In both cases the price of hogs was higher in Canada than in the United States. Normal exchange in pork products between the two countries consists of an exchange of bacon from Canada for pork from the United States. Prices influence the amount but have never recently entirely shut off the trade.

Part of the present difference in price between the two countries is due to the difference in quality of the two products — pork and bacon. Part of the difference is also due to the difference in the value of the dollar. Yet the chief difference is on account of the future contract entered into to ensure supply. In the United States the prices of the past year are supposed and expected to reduce supplies.

(Continued on page 9)



AGRICULTURE

Articles on problems of the farm

Wintering The Woollies

by L. H. Hamilton

OVER two thousand ewes have been placed in small flocks with farmers through the Quebec Department of Agriculture during the past season. Many other flocks have been established through private sale. The purebred breeders have realized a good demand at moderate prices.

One is inclined to seek a reason for this somewhat sudden interest in sheep. Prices on the whole are fairly satisfactory. Wool prices have been fixed at a somewhat higher level than the depressed prices of the past few years, while lamb prices are in keeping with other classes of meat. One of the reasons given me recently was that many farmers are realizing that a few sheep bring in a nice return with very little additional labour or expense. They provide wool for homespun and handicrafts, meat for the family and help very materially in keeping down weeds and establishing more fertility in the soil. It is also becoming better known that parasites can be controlled without being burdensome.

In view of the foregoing, it is perhaps timely to point to some of the management practices which have given satisfactory results and which are likely to be overlooked by the beginner.



Cheviot ewe lambs being wintered in good condition at Macdonald College.

It is too often assumed that sheep will live on the leftovers. While this may be true, it does not ensure a satisfactory lamb crop nor satisfactory sheep. During the pregnancy period, ewes should be kept in a gaining condition. They should be fed to gain as much in weight during this period as they will lose in the weight of the lambs and during the nursing period. This amounts to between 15 and 20 pounds. The feeds should not be fattening and need not

be expensive. Legume hay, because of its richness in protein, minerals and vitamins, and because of its appetizing qualities is the best kind of dry roughage for sheep. Ewes that are brought into the barn in good condition can be carried through the winter without any other feed. Alfalfa, clover and a very good quality of mixed hay without too much timothy have about the same feeding value as a sheep feed.

For best results, these hays should be fed as the entire roughage. When the supply is limited, it may be necessary to substitute half the hay with such feeds as timothy, wild or meadow hay or even oat straw. In this event some high protein feed should be added as a supplement.

Succulent Feed

Succulent feed for the bred ewe is desirable particularly when the quality and kind of dry roughage is not the best. Corn silage of high quality and that is free from freezing is quite satisfactory. The utmost care should be taken to be sure the silage is fresh and free from mold. The quantity should not exceed three pounds per head per day.

In those districts of Quebec where turnips are a more satisfactory crop, they can be fed with satisfactory results. Three pounds per head per day is sufficient and they should preferably be sliced or cut. This avoids breaking out teeth and the possibility of choking.

Avoid Goiter

During at least the last half of the pregnancy period, in many districts of Quebec, the pregnant ewe should be fed potassium iodide to prevent goiter. One convenient way to do this is to dissolve one ounce of potassium iodide in two quarts of water and to give one teaspoonful of the solution to each ewe per day. This can be added to the drinking water or mixed in a little meal and fed.

Housing

Bred ewes do not require warm barns for shelter except during lambing season. A shed or barn with the doors wide open located so that it has good drainage will keep ewes dry and comfortable. It will afford protection from cold rains and wet snow which soak the fleece so that they remain wet for days. The doors should be wide and the sills low so that the ewes will not injure themselves. For the same reason a minimum of 12 to 15 square feet of floor space and 18 inches of trough and rack space are necessary to avoid crowding. Good bedding will add to the comfort and health of the flock. Poor results follow when dark, dirty

(Continued on page 21)

Towards A Better Seed Supply

by R. Summerby

GOOD crops depend on two classes of factors. On the one hand, there are the conditions under which the crop grows, such as a good seed bed, good fertility, and the absence of weeds. On the other hand, there are the qualities of the seed itself, which include such matters as good yielding ability, strength of straw, resistance to disease, and ability to come through the winter without injury. While both of these classes of factors are important, unless provision is made for good seed of the right variety or kind, no amount of attention to other conditions can possibly make up for it.

The Provincial Seed Board

To provide a basis for the very best supply of seed is a function of the Quebec Provincial Seed Board. This organization consists of men engaged in field crop and plant breeding work who are in a good position to obtain information and give help on this problem. The board consists of representatives of the Field Crops Division of the Quebec Department of Agriculture, the Experimental Farms and the Plant Products Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Colleges, the seed merchants, and the Agronomes of the Province.

Choosing the Recommended Varieties

Among the important problems with which the board has to deal is that of the choice of varieties to be recommended, and multiplied for distribution. Due to its size, Quebec has a large variety of soil, weather, and economic conditions. It is desirable that the best varieties be recommended for the whole province, but if some varieties do better in some parts, and others do best in other districts, it is necessary to recommend those that are most suitable for each part. Information must be obtained as to which varieties are best for the different sections.

To meet this need the Seed Board has arranged, through the cooperation of the experimental farms and colleges, to obtain the desired information. The most promising of the large number of available varieties of oats, barley, red clover, timothy, mangels, swedes and corn, are thus tested at each of a number of places representing different sections of the province. These are repeated at least four times at each place each year to ensure reasonably reliable information. Further, as there is a great deal of variation in the weather conditions in different years, it is often true that a variety will do well in one year and poorly in another. Although some facts may be determined in two or three years, as a rule, variety tests to be reasonably reliable should be carried on for at least five years.

In this process of testing, information is obtained on such points as yield, quality, lodging, resistance to disease, hardiness, and any other characters that may be important to growers. After careful examination of the results, the varieties which are to be recommended are decided upon.

As far as possible, the number of varieties of each crop is kept very small. However, it is aimed to provide the varieties that are best suited to the needs of different sections of the country. In oats for example, a superior early variety does better in some parts of the province while a late variety is needed for others. A list of those varieties which are found to do best is published each year, and distributed to seed dealers, agronomes, seed growers, and farmers, so that full use may be made of the information obtained. The recommendations are thus based on a large amount of data and are not mere opinions or guesswork.

The Multiplication of Stocks

Having determined those varieties which should be grown, a further important step is that of providing a seed supply. This involves the production of basic stocks in a pure form and the further multiplication of these stocks, so that a sufficient quantity will be available to farmers. The production and multiplication of the basic stocks is usually done by those institutions which have originated the particular variety that is being multiplied. However, where sufficient quantities of the basic stocks of any variety are not available, arrangements are made for someone to produce them. Further multiplication is placed in the hands of the seed growers in centers where facilities and conditions are suitable for seed growing.



All varieties are carefully tested before being recommended.

Each autumn it is important for farmers to know the situation of the province in regard to the seed supply for the following spring. Provision is made by the Seed Board to gather information on this matter from competent sources. For each crop, it involves the quantity and quality of seed produced in Quebec, and the probable production in other areas from which seed is likely to come. Further, it involves an examination of the seed needs in different parts of the province. Information regarding this is passed on to those to whom it is important.

(Continued on page 8)

Selecting Poultry Breeding Stock

by W. A. Maw

BIRDS selected for breeding stock should have the physical characteristics representative of the breed in body size, plumage and eye colour, and type of comb, as well as the family breeding for production and breeding performance.

Special attention should be given to body shape to avoid using individuals which are either too short in body and legs or too long and deep in body and too long in legs. A well-proportioned body of the desired weight for the breed is essential for vigorous, well-muscled stock.



A Barred Plymouth Rock male, illustrating the well-proportioned body necessary in a bird to head the farm flock.

Eye colour is important, since the grey or mottled coloured eye may be an indication of disease or a predisposition to disease such as paralysis. A clear bay coloured eye is desirable in males and females in the popular breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, Reds, Wyandottes or Leghorns.

General breed disqualifications such as side sprigs on the single comb, foreign colour in the plumage, stubs or down on the feet and shanks, and twisted feathers in the wing or tail are characteristics which may be handed on to the next generation. Such bone defects as crooked keels or toes are also to be avoided in breeding individuals. If uniformity in body type, size, and breed characters are to be developed in a flock, all individuals should be carefully inspected for all such undesirable characteristics. Systematic culling of all stock on the basis of physical well-being is fundamental to continuous progress in breeding results.

After the soundness of the physical make-up of the individuals has been checked, the production performance of the females and the family performance of the male stock should be considered.

Good Laying Power is Inherited

The ability of a pullet to lay eggs of good general quality and hatching power depends upon a number of inheritable characters. The number of eggs laid, the season of production, the rate of lay, the size of egg and the quality of the shell, as well as the inner quality such as strength of thick white, are all characteristics which must be studied in making up matings for pedigree-breeding for improvement. All the characters mentioned are of economic significance, since they influence not only the number of eggs laid, but when they are laid, and the market grade and hatching value of the eggs.

Careful Culling is Important

In general farm flock breeding work, however, it is not possible to consider the individual bird characteristics of production and breeding performance unless the stock is trap-nested, which allows for egg records to be kept and the individual hen's eggs to be hatched separately. The basis of future progress, therefore, lies in rigid selection on a physical basis, careful culling throughout the year of all weak individuals, those going broody, and those laying poorly shaped or small eggs. In order to get a check on egg quality, it would be necessary and advisable to be able to trap-nest the individuals for a short period in the early part of the breeding season. If this is not possible, the eggs used for hatching must be sorted for size and quality at time of setting for incubation.

In mass breeding, therefore, the greatest importance must be placed on the quality of the male being used. Only those males coming from individually pedigreed matings of stock having good annual egg production and egg quality should be used. Body type in the male is of special importance, since the sire in a mating has a dominant influence on the body type in the progeny. The continual use of high quality males will assure gradual improvement in the quality of the stock raised for production of both eggs and meat.

Britain Buys More Eggs

More than 350,000 cases of eggs were exported to Great Britain in the first 10 months of 1940, ten times more than were shipped in 1939. There is a large demand for eggs on the home markets on account of these large exports, and this demand is likely to increase.

But this does not mean that any great expansion of the poultry industry should be made. There are at least a million more laying pullets on farms this fall than last, and these should be able to provide for any increase in demand that may take place.

FLAX

The Flax Industry in the Province AN IMPORTANT NATIONAL ASSET IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL FIELDS

THE flax industry in the Province of Quebec is bound to become a most important national asset, as regards both the industrial and agricultural fields. This we gratefully owe to the Department of Agriculture of the Province of Quebec, of which the Prime Minister has been the leader for several years.

The Plessisville Foundry which is always following the progress of agriculture, when not leading the way, has given with some sacrifice, to the Province of Quebec and to the inventor of the machines for the harvesting and processing of flax, its fullest co-operation in order to assure the success of this industry both in its agricultural and manufacturing aspects. It is with great pleasure that we express today our appreciation to the Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, the Honourable Mr. Adelard Godbout, who is also Minister of Agriculture and Colonization, as well as to his assistants, Messrs. Adrien Morin, André Auger and Paul Méthot, for the interest they take in the manufacturing problems and in the impetus they impart to the agricultural developments insofar as the cultivation of flax is concerned.

We feel bound, and are happy to mention that, without the high recommendation of the Directors of the Department of Agriculture, it would have been impossible for the Plessisville Foundry, in spite of their good will and possibilities, to convince Mr. Soenens that in his own personal interest it was better for him to associate himself with us, because of our long experience, ability and good faith.

The Plessisville Foundry is an old firm established in 1873 and employs 300 persons. For the last fifteen years, it has been growing tremendously, and is in a position to offer today, to its Dominion-wide clientele, a complete service in many spheres of which we present a few details:

For more than 50 years, it has manufactured a complete series of machines for ordinary Saw-Mills, several of these machines have been invented by its own engineers and are a credit to the Foundry.

The Plessisville Foundry manufactures several specialties in the agricultural field, such as Grain and Clover thrashers, Grain Cleaners, Manure Spreaders, Gasoline Motors, Saw-benches and Vegetable Cutters. The continual increase of its business in this field is evident proof that the products and the service of the firm are well appreciated by the agriculturist.

Since 1923, The Plessisville Foundry has manufactured Mechanical Power Transmission and Material Handling Machinery. In this field, it has several important projects to its credit, namely the Grain Elevators of Kingston, Ontario, erected by the Canada Steamship Lines in 1930, and another in Churchill, Manitoba, in 1931 by the Canadian Government in collaboration with the engineers Messrs. C. D. Howe & Co. of Port Arthur, Ontario and the contractors Messrs. Carter-Hallis-Aldinger Co. Limited, of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The amount of the first contract was \$125,000 and the second \$227,000. We number among our best customers the paper, mining and textile industries.

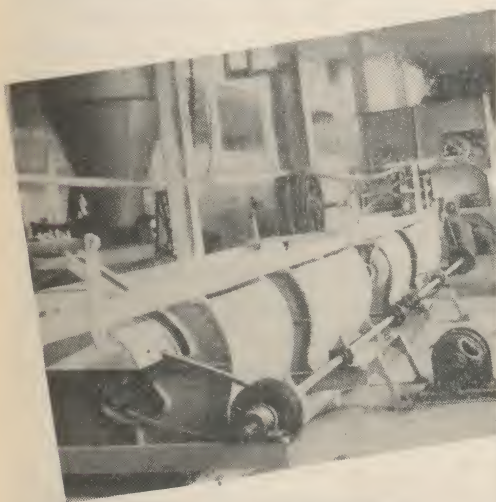
The Plessisville Foundry has been successful in every field it has entered, this being mainly due to its technical organization which can compete with any large establishment and also to the principle of giving good service and supplying good merchandise at a reasonable price.

These facts pertaining to the Plessisville Foundry will amply show that the Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec and his assistants were fully justified in co-operating with this establishment in order to retain in the Province of Quebec the manufacturing of machines for harvesting and processing flax.

The photographs appearing on this page should give you an idea of the machines employed for the harvesting and processing of flax.

Mr. Maurice A. Soenens, a Belgian of long experience and great competence in the flax industry, inventor of several machines for harvesting and processing flax, realized that the Province of Quebec offered great facilities for this industry, because of our favourable soil and climate which is so conducive to the cultivation of flax and also because of the whole-hearted support of the Prime Minister of the Province and his assistants who are affording him all the necessary co-operation. Finally, Mr. Soenens has at his disposal the competent technicians and qualified workers of the Plessisville Foundry to assure the success of this new branch of the agricultural and manufacturing industry.

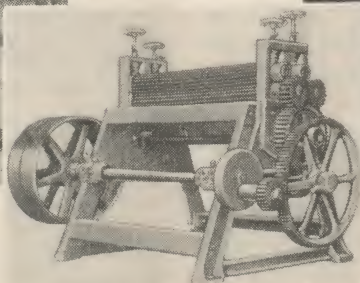
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Shall We Feed Minerals?

by E. W. Crampton

WITH the barn feeding season the question of minerals again becomes important, especially for those classes of stock which have changed from pasture to winter rations. And one of the problems for the feeder is to sort out, from the countless claims of the mineral enthusiasts, the known facts from the assumptions. It is the purpose of this article to present certain information regarding the feeding of minerals which has been established by careful experimental work.

Accepted Facts About Minerals

1. Some 13 mineral elements are known to be essential components of animal rations. These are: calcium, phosphorus, sodium, chlorine, iron, copper, iodine, cobalt, magnesium, manganese, potassium, sulphur, and zinc. There may be others, but the absence of any one of the above list causes changes in normal metabolism which can be noticed with present methods of study.
2. It is seldom if ever necessary to specially fortify practical rations made up of natural foods with any but the first eight in this list of minerals and for most cases involving mature stock, more of only calcium, phosphorus, and common salt (sodium chloride) are needed in the usual ration.
3. There are geographical areas, not yet completely defined, within which there are specific mineral deficiencies in the natural foods. Thus iodine must be especially fed in so-called "goiter regions" and fortification of diets with cobalt becomes necessary in other restricted regions.
4. Certain classes of animals may require the supplementary feeding of iron and copper. In general this need is confined to pregnant females (especially of those species producing litters of several young), and to young animals during the time their diets are largely of milk. Leaving out the copper is not likely to be serious in most cases, for most stock rations actually contain enough copper to enable the use of the iron.
5. There are some regions where there appears to be enough selenium in the soil and hence in crops growing thereon to be a danger to successful livestock production. Selenium-containing soils have been found in northwestern United States.
6. There is as yet no experimental evidence that such minerals as sulphur, potassium, magnesium, manganese need to be specially added to the rations of the larger farm animals. The fact that the herds at recognized experiment stations are successfully raised on rations without additions of these elements shows this.
7. No class of stock can be depended on to choose needed

minerals nor to consume proper amounts of any mineral (other perhaps than common salt) when they are merely placed before them. Minerals should, therefore, be mixed in the meal mixtures in the proportions needed for the stock in question, or otherwise specifically fed to the stock in question.

8. All classes of stock are subject to mineral deficiency diseases (such as rickets, anemia, goiter) if their diets do not contain enough of the necessary mineral elements.
9. None of the feeds of plant origin, as cereal grains, or the oilmeals, have sufficient calcium or phosphorus to meet the needs of any farm animal. Feeds of animal origin, as milk, tankage, fishmeal, are excellent sources of extra minerals. Roughages, especially the legumes, are high in minerals. It follows, therefore, that the rations of all animals not subsisting largely on good roughage or whose rations do not contain fair amounts of some feed of animal origin should always be fortified with calcium, phosphorus, and common salt.
10. The quantities each of supplementary calcium and phosphorus needed are usually as large as that of salt. Therefore, mineral mixtures should not be more than one-third salt.

TOWARDS A BETTER SEED SUPPLY

(Continued from page 5)

Publicity

From time to time it is desirable that publicity be given to matters pertaining to seed. Timely and appropriate information on this is therefore presented to the public through the farm press, by circular, by radio, or by whatever means appears to be most suitable for the particular subject. Already this year arrangements have been made for a program of publicity during the coming months and previous to seeding time. Among others, information regarding the seed situation referred to in the previous paragraph will be published shortly.

Other Functions of the Board

A further function of the Seed Board is that of advising the government when requested or as occasion demands, on matters pertaining to seed policy and program. The government looks to the Seed Board for such advice and repeatedly submits matters to the board for its opinion and recommendation.

The board thus acts as an advisory body and a co-ordinating agency in bringing all the organizations together and using them in the best possible way so that the farmers of the province may have available a most satisfactory supply of seed.

USING THE NEW TREATMENT FOR SHEEP PARASITES

W. E. SWALES,

*Division of Animal Pathology, Science
Service, Dom. Dept. Agr., Institute of
Pathology, Macdonald College.*

JUDGING from the many letters received from those interested in sheep production in the Province of Quebec it is apparent that a word of explanation of policy regarding the newly developed and highly successful method of preventing losses is necessary at this time. Very recently the National Research Council has granted a license to a large pharmaceutical house to manufacture the phenothiazine tablets in Canada; this firm will be producing this product at a very reasonable commodity price by the end of this month. Supplies will then be made available to veterinarians throughout the Dominion and, in some provinces, to central and professionally controlled centres of supply.

The administration of any large tablet to sheep requires care, and all sheep owners are urged to seek the best possible advice and service. The promiscuous use of a new treatment, without regard to season or circumstance will inevitably result in disappointment. However, every adult

sheep in the province should be treated in the very early spring, either several weeks before or just after lambing; the breeding ewes must not be allowed to contaminate the spring pastures before they are treated, of course. Following this the lambs should receive the simple bluestone-nicotine drench at the beginning of July and, in a few bad areas, again in August.

The phenothiazine tablets should be used in the autumn at the first sign of scouring in lambs or yearling stock, but at this time a reduced dose can be used. It is possible that ewes that did not receive the treatment in the spring will be greatly benefited by a treatment in the early winter, but this must not be allowed to replace the all important prepasturing spring dose.

We believe that the *correct use* of this remarkable new treatment will eliminate one of the greatest handicaps to sheep husbandry in eastern Canada. However, it must be used to augment, not replace, good husbandry.

THE BRITISH TRADE AGREEMENTS

(Continued from page 3)

In the Province of Quebec expansion in raising of hogs has been going on for some time. In 1931 the number of hogs on farms was 728,000. The average price of live hogs at Montreal in 1931 was \$7.10 per cwt. This was a drop from \$11.85 in 1930. In the following year the number reported was 667,000. In 1932 the Montreal price was \$4.80 per cwt. alive. In the following year 1933, the number was 482,000. This was the low point of the decade. In June 1940 the number on farms was 937,000. There are indications that some increase may occur in the first part of 1941 over the early part of 1940, as the sows bred to farrow between June and November recorded an increase over the previous year. Yet judging from past records indications are that Quebec will decrease production as soon as this is possible. One indication of this is the increased proportion of light hogs in recent runs. In September 1940 the proportion of lights marketed was over 11 per cent, while in the same month of the previous year the proportion was only 6 per cent. Selling unfinished hogs is evidence that the feeder feels that the business is not profitable.

Will the New Agreements Help Hog-Raisers?

The recent drop in price of hogs has occurred at the same time that prices of feed have risen. Under such conditions the new contract may be considered as a hard blow to the hog feeder in Quebec and perhaps also in Eastern

Canada generally. The blow might be softened by reduced cost of production in providing cheaper feeds which are the raw material for bacon. In this connection it may be pointed out that a recent arrival at Port Williams, Nova Scotia, of a cargo of barley from Fort William was announced, which it was proposed by Mr. George Chase to provide for farmers at \$25.00 per ton. With feed available at that price there may still be a chance for hog numbers in Eastern Canada to be maintained.

Fewer Hogs in 1942

Any reduction in numbers is not likely to be pronounced before 1942 as the recent contract was only announced after the time for breeding for early spring litters. Present prices may lessen breeding operations for late litters. This will not alarm those who have been worrying over the heavy runs this fall. Yet the time when the contract was made prevents any great decline in the current year and exerts a more salutary effect on the year following. In the future it is suggested that contracts should be made earlier in the year — say around October first rather than November fifteenth — in order that feeders could breed according to the number required. Failing this there may be a tendency for breeders to hold off their operations in order to see what the new contract contains. This would result in a more uneven monthly distribution of marketings than now prevails and increase a difficulty that many have been working hard to overcome.



CO-OPERATION AND MARKETING

A page of interest to members of farmers' co-operatives

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

Co-operatives have a greater opportunity to serve in time of war than in peacetime. This fact has not been appreciated by everyone interested in the movement. Some have said to themselves that war work of various kinds is the immediate need and that their spare time previously given to organizing and carrying on co-operative ventures should now be devoted to voluntary work connected with the war effort.

For us in Canada who are so far from the battle line this view may seem the right one at this time. However in this as well as in other preparatory efforts it is necessary to look well ahead. In England the commencement of the war and the introduction of rationing and other forms of control led to an immediate sharp increase both in trading and membership of the co-operatives. This form of organization was ideal for the new conditions which demanded that every housewife should select the store from which she would regularly buy her supplies. The co-operative store already operated on the principle of meeting the needs of a known and regular market and fitted into the picture more readily than the private stores and chains.

Canada just now is a land of plenty but if in the future rationing had to be introduced or, worse, we were subjected to invasion, remote though the possibility may seem just now, then the regular methods of the co-operative society would show their value. The group represented in the co-operative society would continue to secure the supplies needed under a rationing scheme with the least inconvenience and even if an invasion disrupted the ordinary forces of government, the society would still form an organized group capable of continuing to the last extremity the task of supplying its members with the everyday necessities of life. Urban and rural societies could still arrange to exchange what they had for what they needed. However, to be ready to carry on in this way in Canada in a time of crisis, people must educate, train and accustom themselves to the co-operative way in advance and, without neglecting necessary war work, those who have been participating in co-operative organization should also not fail to carry on and develop such work more strongly than ever.

WHERE IS YOUR NEAREST CO-OPERATIVE?

Do you know what kind it is?

Is it a producers' co-operative or a consumers' co-operative?

What goods or services does it supply for its members?

MARKET COMMENTS

The past month has been a notable one for the Canadian farmer from the point of view of disposing of his products. These changes have not been all beneficial nor of equal significance to all sections, yet by and large they have been in the farmer's favour.

That period saw danger of interference with international trade in farm products with the United States removed for the next four years. This extends the life of the present arrangement for the southern outlet for cattle as well as some other products. This is of real value to Canadian farmers. Last month also saw a somewhat long delayed rise in the price of butter established. Finally, the new contracts with Britain for cheese and bacon, as well as some other goods, were announced.

On the other hand the same period that records a lower price for hogs also sets forth a higher price for feed. For those who make a practice of buying considerable feed this change may dim the picture to some degree.

From September 1939 to September 1940 the index number of wholesale prices of all products rose from 78.4 to 83.1. During the same period the index number of Canadian farm products fell from 64.3 to 63.8, according to the records of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Trend of Prices

	November 1939	October 1940	November 1940
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
LIVE STOCK:			
Steers, good, per cwt.	7.37	7.83	7.95
Cows, good, per cwt.	5.07	5.64	5.33
Cows, common, per cwt.	3.78	4.10	3.88
Canners and Cutters, per cwt.	3.09	3.06	3.00
Veal, good and choice, per cwt.	10.38	10.73	11.10
Veal, common, per cwt.	9.28	8.90	9.35
Lambs, good, per cwt.	9.83	8.78	9.63
Lambs, common, per cwt.	7.85	6.78	7.63
Bacon hogs, dressed, B.1, per cwt.	12.00	12.00	11.13
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:			
Butter, per lb.	0.29	0.28	0.30
Eggs, Grade A, per doz.	0.40	0.38	0.45
Chickens, live, 5 lbs. plus, per lb.	0.15	0.16	0.14
Dressed, milk fed A, per lb.	0.22	0.23	0.23
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES:			
Apples, Quebec, MacIntosh, Extra Fancy, per box	2.20	1.85	2.10
No. 1, per bbl.	4.05	4.25	4.00
Potatoes, Quebec No. 1, per 75 lb. bag	0.90	0.60	0.65
FEED:			
Bran, per ton	24.50	24.00	26.00
Short, per ton	26.00	26.00	27.00
Oil meal, per ton	(35%) 36.00	(39%) 35.00	(39%) 35.00

TEACH YOUR DOLLARS TO HAVE MORE CENTS

Those of us who have incomes, whether we are farmers or factory workers, or business men or housewives, are constantly trying to make those incomes go as far as possible. We want to teach our dollars to have more cents. The many different forms of co-operative enterprise go to show how those who have found the co-operative method successful in enlarging their income or making it go further in one field, have found that it can be applied in other fields too.

Here is how the members of one community helped themselves to supply credit for themselves.

The community is Lafleche, Saskatchewan. The local Board of Trade, helped by the local clergy, studied the community's problems, and held several educational meetings during the winter of 1937-38. These were attended by farmers and business men. Apparently they agreed on the need for credit, for as a result of these meetings they formed the Lafleche Community Savings and Credit Union, Ltd. with twelve members to start with and a total capital of \$51.50. That was in April 1938. In the two years and five months since then the capital has increased to \$17,375, and it has made loans totalling \$39,056. Its membership is now 246. The credit union pays 3% on deposits, and 4% on share capital.

In spite of eight crop failures in the community, the credit union has not lost one dollar on bad loans, and all loans have been paid at maturity. Between Jan. 1 and Sept. 30, 1940, it has made 116 loans to farmers to a total of \$11,317. It has made 56 loans to citizens of the town for an amount of \$3,545, and 33 loans to business men amounting to \$3,915. The farmers' loans have been for such purposes as consolidation of debts, to pay cash for machinery, twine, repairs, etc.; the business men, for such purposes as being able to take advantage of discounts for cash, or quantity purchasing, etc.

The Credit Union announces itself as "A Co-operative Society organized to promote thrift among its members, and create for them a source of credit." It is the subject of high praise from all those whom it has benefited, and a source of pride to the community.

CO-OP SECTION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE MOVES TO CANADA

The Co-operative Service section of the International Labor Office is being established in Canada following the transfer of most of the activities of the League of Nations and the International Labor Office from Geneva.

The Co-operative Service division has been invited to establish headquarters at McGill University, Montreal. The work of the office is being continued without delay. The office is a clearing house for information on co-operative associations of all types in all sections of the world.



**THE PICK
OF THEM
ALL!**

WHITE ROSE
MOTOR OIL
GASOLINE

•
CANADIAN OIL COMPANIES
LIMITED
THE ALL-CANADIAN COMPANY



with
SHUR-GAIN
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Big 50 Concentrate
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DESIGNS FOR LEARNING

*"Here are Books, and we have brains to read them;
Here is a whole Earth, and a whole Heaven,
And we have eyes to look on them."*

—THOMAS CARLYLE.

THREADS FROM THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING

Two children hung up their stockings at the fireplace. Their stockings were old, with holes in the toes. Now the wise child darned her sock while the foolish one left hers undarned. Santa Claus came and put good things in the stockings, but the foolish child's gifts fell into the fireplace and were burned. But the good child found her darned stocking full of gifts in the morning.

* * *

Funny, isn't it, how you run into communities who are always kicking about conditions, or the young people or the government, and doing nothing about them themselves. Perhaps they are expecting someone to darn their stocking. Adult education isn't a bad way of getting the old community sock in shape. Then there's the question of getting something to put in it.

* * *

Supposing you were Santa Claus, and you decided to cut out this old stuff of giving presents to people, and you decided to give presents to neighborhoods, and communities instead.

That would require a new kind of stocking. And a new kind of Christmas.

Now if I were Santa Claus working on this new idea, I would abolish Christmas. I would pass a Toyland by-law making Christmas a weekly affair. And the whole community would meet once a week in study groups to decide what kind of letters to write Santa Claus.

* * *

And then there was the bachelor who hung up his own stocking, and then put all the things in it he had been wanting. He wasn't so dumb. He knew what he wanted, and he got it.

A community could do that too. Or a group of neighbors. It could hang up a stocking for the community, burn its letter to Santa Claus, and then go out and get what it wanted.

I'll bet they would see to it that the toe in the stocking was darned.

That's better than what some communities do now. They give away a few ducks, and a few apples Christmas morning to the needy. And then forget about them till next Christmas. It takes a long stocking to stretch 365 days. And a powerful big duck.

* * *

But you see if I were Santa Claus, I would just organize study groups. The people would look after themselves then.

ADULT EDUCATION NOTES

by R. Alex Sim

The Community Schools of 1940 are history now. But a total registration of nearly 800 makes us look forward to a greater next year.

Æ

Radio Institutes will be running in December in many districts of Quebec. Plans will be laid at these Institute meetings for the formation of study groups all over Quebec. A folder describing the project is already in circulation. If you haven't seen it, send in to the Service for a copy.

The Radio Institutes are an important feature of adult education, and the more listening groups that can be formed to listen to the C.B.C. broadcasts starting in January, the more easily can the farm problems of our province be settled. The groups should be active ones and not merely listen to the programs, agreeing at times and disagreeing at other times. Your practical problems can be solved by all of you together if you participate actively in discussions and send your ideas along to us. The farmers alone can solve their problems; no one else will.

THREADS—(Continued)

No more tedious toy making then. I'd sell my reindeer, and turn my sled in. Wouldn't need it anymore.

All the people would want then, would be pamphlets, books, and discussion outlines.

They'd find before long if the people needed ducks for dinner they could bring their own ducks. And if there weren't enough ducks, by crickey! they'd get some eggs, and a few clucking hens, and get some ducks — by hook or by hen.

The study group might find it needed credit. Then it would make itself a present of a credit union. The study group might find that production was bad. It might find they weren't selling what they produced. Then it would have to solve that problem.

Or it might decide on more recreation or more neighborliness, or more libraries, or more community schools.

* * *

It would be a different sort of Christmas. Someone would buy Santa Claus a razor. The old idea of each little fellow, young and old, hanging up his stocking, and hoping against hope someone would drop a few scraps into it would be gone.

And it would be a Merry Christmas to all every week of the year.

R. ALEX SIM.

ALFALFA AND ADULT EDUCATION

by Gordon W. Geddes

While breaking up an old stand of alfalfa, the idea came along that if Adult Education ever became as deeply rooted in the minds of the people as that alfalfa had in the soil, it would be here to stay. Certainly such an occurrence would be a distinct advantage to the people. The farmer needs alfalfa in his farm operations but he needs education so that he may work intelligently, get the best results from his work and have time to play to advantage as well. His livestock may get along without alfalfa but they will not be as efficient. He and his family may get along without Adult Education but they won't be as efficient either. No matter how good schools we attend in our younger days, we cannot learn all we need to know. The greatest lesson we can take out of school with us is that, no matter how many diplomas we have, our education has only begun.

If we admit the need for alfalfa and education in a farm program we might still be surprised to find that somewhat the same methods will help to establish both of them. Further consideration might prove the point and a farmer thinks of alfalfa first. He can't just sow the seed any old way in any old field and cut alfalfa hay. He picks out his most likely field, fertilizes and works it well. Perhaps he has the soil tested and finds out just what fertilizer it needs, and it may need lime too. Then he gets a good strain of alfalfa and, if it hasn't been grown in this field before, he inoculates to promote helpful bacteria in the soil. He can sow a little soil from a good alfalfa field over the land to do the inoculating or he can plant a little first and in-

oculate that way if he wants to wait for results.

If we want to establish Adult Education, we don't pick a backward community for a start. We pick out the most likely spot, fertilize and prepare the soil, which happens to be the minds of the people. Then we select a type of education suited to the district (this corresponds to the good strain of seed). Even here inoculation is helpful but we don't do it with culture from a bottle as we do with alfalfa. We travel around and get a few people interested (the first plants) or we may hurry things up with some mass meetings and inoculate a lot of people at once. Once they are going, both "crops" need care and proper management.

These methods were adopted by the Rural Adult Education Centre when it started at Lennoxville, Que. It had a school for leaders to do some inoculating and study groups were formed in likely spots. The second year the school was repeated but the Women's Institutes in Stanstead County asked for a Community School there. This was carried on in addition to the Lennoxville project and was quite successful. This encouraged an extension this year to Compton and Richmond Counties with the Lennoxville school serving Sherbrooke County again and the Stanstead County school repeated. Again the effort was very successful with the enrolment in Stanstead doubled and over 700 in the four schools.

Thus the cultivated area grows and, though there are many fields still to sow, time and proper methods will make them yield a crop.

THE ORMSTOWN STUDY CLUB

Too many people work on the assumption that if they have made a good job of the particular thing they are employed for, that they have entirely liquidated their debt to society. Mr. David Munroe, Principal of the Ormstown High School, is not one of these. Ormstown has provided a very fine high school building to take care of the young people from the surrounding district, who are daily transported thither by bus. The organization is the typical consolidated rural high school. Mr. Munroe might be pardoned if at the end of a strenuous day in directing the school work, he were to discard, for the time being, the mantle of the pedagogue, but that is not his way.

Realizing that there was an opportunity in the Ormstown district to provide worthwhile leadership to the adult members of the population, Mr. Munroe called together last year a cross-sectional group of the leading citizens of the Ormstown vicinity. It was forthwith decided to inaugurate the Ormstown Study Club to include both men and women of late teen years and upwards. A membership fee of one dollar per person was charged to defray expenses.

The 1939-40 program was not extensive but was most

appropriate and fundamental. It consisted of a series of discussions on the general subject of Citizenship — surely a good place to begin. These meetings were led largely by local talent and the results were eminently satisfactory.

A much more varied diet is being offered for the 1940-41 season. There is a Farm Problems Group which has on its programme, among others subjects; questions of silage production, farm economics and tractor farming. While this is in progress, the women members in another room are discussing home nursing, following which both groups come together to exercise the vocal art. Mr. Munroe is ably assisted in directing these activities by his good wife who assumes responsibility for home nursing, by the local medico and other leaders in the Ormstown district. This year between 80 and 100 members are taking part in the various group programs. Gatherings are held on each Wednesday night at 7.45.

Your reporter was not present long enough to become acquainted with many of the details of organization. He was, however, very thoroughly impressed with the spontaneity and independence of the whole movement and would venture to predict a successful outcome to the undertaking.



SCHOOL PROBLEMS AND VIEWPOINTS



The Old Gray Mare

by Frank Hanson

SHE'S not what she used to be and Adeline grows sweeter every day. Why? Because these and other songs of their type are being sung more expertly than in your youth and mine. Not only has there been a turn to better singing and more of it, but there has also been a noticeable improvement in musical tastes. Two agencies have contributed much to bring these things about — the radio and the school.

Radio Music

We hear a wide variety of song music these days. Professional choirs, choruses of school children, operatic and concert stars all broadcast performances which reach high levels of achievement. Undoubtedly these stimulate the individual and influence his conception of standards. It is evident then that radio occupies a place of value in the music of today.

School Music

School music is now considered as a "must" subject in an increasing number of localities. Reports are heard of high school students performing music that could only have been adequately done by adult choirs ten years ago; of symphony orchestras and symphonic bands; of small instrumental and vocal ensembles; of voice and instrument lessons being given on school premises; of provision made for non-performers who are encouraged to listen to music and guided to better and fuller appreciation. "Music for every Child and every Child for Music" is the objective held by enlightened school authorities. To suggest forming a symphony orchestra in a one room school is, of course, suggesting the impossible.

However, there is no reason why any school should not encourage music making. The singing of songs, the playing of simple instruments (or even making crude instruments of a string or wind type from materials at hand) and listening to educational broadcasts, are types of activities which may be carried on no matter how small the school may be. It is encouraging to see the results obtained by many schools, but it is a matter of regret that some have not initiated a programme of any sort. Possibly there are two reasons why some schools fail to include music in their programmes. (1) the educational values are not understood (2) a lack of trained leaders. Let us briefly look at the reasons why there should be music making in every school.

The Value of Music Education

1. Training for citizenship. The singing of empire songs by children from an early age is one of our best guarantees that future generations will be loyal citizens. The history of the British Empire is studded with song gems

telling of the deeds of famous men and of our prowess on sea and land; describing the vast reaches of our varied territories; keeping before us the attributes of character which have made our empire possible. The impressions made by these song stories are lasting ones and provide the best kind of training.

2. Training the cooperative spirit. One of the values of school is that the child learns how to work and play with others. Through experience and guidance he learns to have regard and respect for the viewpoints and sensibilities of others and we know that one of the values of the athletic team lies in the opportunities provided for learning teamwork. The choral group may be used for the same purpose with parallel results. Furthermore it provides an outlet for those who do not participate in sports.

3. Training for appreciation. Books, paintings and music are produced for the enjoyment of the individual but deep enjoyment does not come from superficial contacts with these things. True enjoyment comes when one is able to enter into the spirit, mood and meaning of the work of art as originally conceived by the artist. Appreciation is more easily brought into being by participation and music offers the amateur immediate rewards in increased enjoyment with comparatively little effort on his part. The school programme in music then should be built around the central idea of encouraging appreciation by allowing the individual to participate.

4. Training for recreation. There comes a time in every school day when both teacher and pupil have reached their limits of concentration and it has been proven that music has the effect of refreshing a group to such an extent that learning becomes more easily possible thereafter. The ability to choose a worthwhile recreational activity in later life is very often formed in school.

In all of these endeavours the child is being trained to take his place in society as a good citizen; as a person who can submerge his or her individual characteristics in a group and work for the common good of society; an educated individual who can appreciate the finer things in life; a person who has experienced a recreation that is good and clean and one that he will instinctively turn to in later life.

Leaders in Music

The success or failure of community music depends on the leaders who are available, and very often it is to the school teacher to whom we look for leadership. However,

(Continued on page 21)



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES PAGE

*A section devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

PARENTS AND CHILDREN

by Mary Avison

This column will welcome comments or questions on the problems it deals with, or on others that arise in every normal home.

IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

"Mother, is there really a Santa Claus?"

The direct question, with trusting eyes looking straight into ours, comes sooner or later to every parent. The quality of our answer is the measure of our insight and of our understanding.

Some will answer teasingly: "Surely you wouldn't want there to be no Santa Claus, would you?" or a bit fearfully, wishing to keep their baby just a little longer: "Of course there's a Santa. I'll take you to see him." But the child is left with a lingering doubt in spite of all their assurances.

Another will answer gaily: "Of course; who brings you all those lovely toys at Christmas? Why! you were Santa Claus yourself when you took all those presents round last year," and her twinkling eyes will add: "We both know this is a game, of course — a kind of 'let's pretend' — but there is something real and true about it too — and we both love it." Neither mother nor child will admit this openly lest the fairy quality, like the dust on a butterfly wing, so lovely, so evanescent, be lost.

Another, deciding that now the child is old enough to be told, will answer seriously: "No. There isn't really a Santa Claus. It is just a man dressed up." — But this is so absolute, so prosaic that the little child, if she is a normal child, seems to agree yet goes on talking of Santa Claus just as before. It is very puzzling and so difficult to make them understand. It may help if we discover what we really want to safeguard for our children when they come to us with this question.

First and foremost I think we parents wish to prolong for our children the remembered joys of our own childhood and we hesitate to destroy too soon the delightful anticipation which belief in Santa brings. Secondly, (and to some an even more important consideration) is the distaste for being untruthful, the fear of losing our children's trust when the inevitable disillusionment comes, and the small son or daughter turns to say, "There isn't any Santa Claus; *you* said there was." That trust is so important through all the growing years that it is not lightly to be risked for the sake of a few days excitement.

There are, however, other considerations which in our solemn concern or perhaps because of an unhappy experi-

ence in our own childhood, we fail to recognize. We are so grown-up, we so soon forget that a child's world is not rational and logical. For them, fairies and magic and 'let's pretend' are daily and hourly companions; for them

(Concluded on page 17)

W. I. NOTES

Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.A., O.B.E., President of the Associated Country Women of the World, was present as guest speaker at several of the semi-annual meetings of the County Women's Institutes during the past month. In Sherbrooke County, where Mrs. Watt made her first visit, she told in graphic language of her trip around the world, starting from the Convention of the Federated Women of the World held in Washington, D.C. in 1936.

In Compton County, Mrs. Watt spoke on war work and the place of women in the present world struggle. In Stanstead her address covered general phases of W.I. work.

From Dunham where Mrs. Watt spoke early in the following week, she left for Bonaventure County, the home of the President of the Q.W.I., Mrs. Cameron E. Dow of Port Daniel Centre. Mrs. Watt addressed meetings in St. Andrew's and St. Stephen's New Brunswick, before leaving for Halifax.

To Mrs. Watt is due the credit of introducing the Women's Institutes movement into England during the war period of 1914-1918, where it has been described by Queen Mary as "Canada's gift to England."

Practically every Branch in the Province observed the Armistice anniversary at their meetings, or joined with local services and celebrations.

War work, in the form of knitting, sewing, making supplies for refugees, packing boxes for overseas boys, raising funds and canning fruits and vegetables for Red Cross purposes, promoting the sale of War stamps, and giving them as prizes in schools have occupied a place in the month's programme of activities.

Huntingdon and Chateauguy Counties have equipped a maternity room in the new Barrie Hospital in Ormstown.

Cowansville Branch held a reception for the teaching staff of the High School. Many Branches have shown their interest in education by giving generously to the annual prize lists in their schools. A progressive contest in Dramatics is being sponsored by the branches in Huntingdon and Chateauguy Counties, the finale to be held in May. Libraries are gaining in interest and favour, several Branches now uniting in a County Library for the wider distribution of books.

M. E. McCURDY.

Xmas Favours And Goodies

by Gwendolyn Taylor

THIS is one year in which we would all do well to pause and think of the real meaning of Christmas. Certain customs are sacred to this season. Santa Claus, the Christmas tree, decorations of holly and mistletoe, and the exchange of gifts are taken as a matter of course. As well as being a time of giving, Christmas has always been a time of feasting. This is the season when the kitchen wafts the tantalizing odours of a vast spice box.

Christmas favours can be made inexpensively and easily and add a great deal to the festive board. Surprise the family at breakfast by dressing up the table with an apple Santa Claus at each place. Take a rosy apple and stick a toothpick in the stem end. Place on it a marshmallow on which a face has been made using cloves for the eyes, nose and mouth. Make a cap, beard and collar of absorbent cotton. Rosy cheeks will improve him.



An easily made favour for the Xmas table.

For Christmas dinner, a simple favour can be made by pressing a small red candle into a marshmallow, fastening a "life-saver" on the side for a handle. Tie this with a red ribbon. The whole may be pasted on a small base of green paper.

Another suggestion is to make individual Christmas trees by placing sprigs of evergreen in empty spoons, which are covered to make them look like miniature pots. Yes, you can decorate the trees too.

A marshmallow snow man, using a light wire hairpin as a foundation, is still another favour. Marshmallows are cut in halves or thirds for arms or legs. Cloves are used for eyes and nose, while cinnamon drops make the mouth and buttons. The man will stand if allowed to dry for a few days.

But the Christmas feast requires more than favours. The cookie jar has extra demands, so fill it to overflowing. Here are a few Merry Mix-ups for 1940:—

FANCY SHORTBREAD

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of butter | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup blanched almonds |
| $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups flour | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup candied cherries |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup brown sugar | $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla |

Mix flour and sugar and work in softened butter with finger tips until thoroughly blended. Add chopped almonds, cherries and vanilla. Shape into rolls about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in

diameter. Wrap in wax paper and leave in refrigerator or cold place over-night. When ready to bake, slice thin with a very sharp knife. Bake on a greased baking sheet in a slow oven.

MINCE DROP COOKIES

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped nuts |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup brown sugar | 1 cup mincemeat |
| 1 egg | $1\frac{1}{3}$ cups flour |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup rolled oats | $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon soda |
| | $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt |

Cream butter, add sugar gradually, then beaten egg. Add rolled oats, nuts and mincemeat. Mix well. Sift dry ingredients twice and add to first mixture. Drop by teaspoons on a greased baking sheet and bake in a moderate oven for fifteen minutes.

SWEDISH TEA RINGS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter | 1 egg |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup brown sugar | 1 cup flour |
| | chopped nuts |

Cream butter, add sugar gradually. Add beaten egg yolk and flour. Make into small balls, then dip in egg white, slightly beaten. Roll in finely chopped walnuts. Place on greased baking tin and press down centre of each. Cook in a slow oven for 5 minutes. Remove from oven, press again in centre and return to oven 10 to 15 minutes. While still warm fill the top with red jelly.

WALNUT SLICE

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1 cup flour | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter |
|-------------|--------------------------|
- Mix and press in bottom of cake tin. It should be about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. Bake in moderate oven and cool.

Mix in order given:—

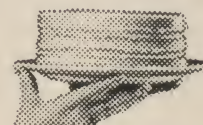
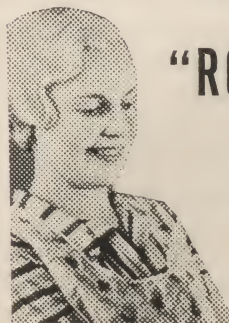
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups brown sugar | 2 eggs, beaten |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cocoanut | 2 tablespoons flour |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped walnuts | $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder |

Pour the mixture over cooked layer in pan. Bake in a slow oven about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour or until lightly browned. Cut in squares while warm.

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IF IT'S "OGILVIE" — IT'S GOOD

Many of us wave aside the traditional plum pudding for a lighter dessert as the climax to our Christmas dinner. Here is one I think you will enjoy:

PARADISE PUDDING

12 marshmallows	1 pt. boiling water
12 candied cherries	½ cup sugar
1 cup whipping cream	½ cup blanched almonds
1 pkg. lime jelly powder	

Add water to jelly powder according to directions on package. Add sugar and stir until dissolved. Chop almonds and cut up marshmallows and cherries. Cool jelly until it begins to set. Whip until it is frothy and fold in nuts, fruit and cream which has been whipped. Serve in glass sherbets.



Marshmallows and a hairpin make this snowman.

May these few suggestions make your Christmas a cheerier one.

IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

(Continued from page 15)

there is no clear distinction between the actual and the imagined. Both are often perceived with equal vividness and delight. As they grow older they learn to distinguish; but they need not, even then, deny the vividness and joy in those things which are perceived through the imagination. Indeed those deep but intangible realities which we call the things of the spirit can only be known by many of us through the external symbols which we associate with them, and we must beware lest in destroying the symbols we destroy the spirit also.

To come back to Santa Claus:—which of us does not cherish a warm affection for this jolly old friend who has become for us the symbol of so much merriment and kindness, of hidden secrets and delightful surprises, wide friendliness, and deep affection. Who dare gainsay that he is real in a much richer sense than the genie we would deny by our "No" or the pathetic dressed up figure we would keep but briefly by our "Yes".

Surely without risking the loss of their trust, without keeping them babies too long, we can preserve this Santa Claus alive and real for our children and ourselves.

Instead of Silk Stockings

by Martha Britt

Thirty years ago we could buy stocking of silk, wool or cotton. Fifteen years ago rayon, that synthetic yarn which has become so important in the textile world appeared in stockings, but in this field it failed to compete with silk.

Now we have a new synthetic which is causing quite a sensation; it is called NYLON. What is it? It is a strand very similar to silk, but stronger than a silk strand of equal weight. The chemists have taken coal, air and water, and by a complicated process in a very scientific manner have produced this new filament called nylon.

In the last year many hosiery mills have been knitting stockings of nylon yarn. Wearing tests are being conducted to see how they compare with silk so that they may be perfected as nearly as possible before they are sold in the stores.

They look like very sheer silk stockings with no irregularities in the strand, for this synthetic yarn can be made perfect in every respect, whereas in the silken strand made by the silk worm there are sometimes slight variations. Nylon when steamed into shape will retain that shape permanently, so in the finishing process nylon stockings take on their lifetime shape. There is some question as to the elasticity of nylon under ordinary conditions, therefore it is advisable to buy stockings of the correct size to avoid undue strain by stretching, as a nylon stocking will run just as quickly as one of silk when the strand is broken.

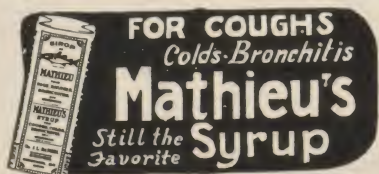
Nylon stockings require the same attention as silk stockings. Care must be taken to prevent snags or pulled threads which sooner or later will develop into runs. They should be washed after each wearing in warm suds, rinsed in clear water, squeezed gently in the hands, then rolled in a bath towel to remove as much water as possible before hanging them over a rod or bar to dry. They will dry more quickly than silk.

These stockings will appear in the stores for our selection in January, so when we wish to buy "luxury sheer" stockings costing over a dollar we will have to decide whether we want stockings made of silk, a fine strand made by the silk worm, or of nylon, a strand almost identical to silk, but made by man.

Potatoes cooked in the Jacket

Since the once abundant and inexpensive fruits such as peaches and plums etc., are now out of season we must look for another food with similar food value. These fruits are excellent sources of vitamin C—usually only found in fresh fruits and vegetables.

Canned tomatoes are dependable sources of vitamin C. Potatoes cooked in their jackets are also good sources. One potato cooked in this manner will supply about ¼ of the vitamin C needed for 1 day.



THE CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS

by A. H. Walker

The average home is not the best place in which to grow plants, for often they do not get enough light, the rooms in which they are kept are usually too warm and dry, and very often the plants are not watered as regularly as they should be. Then, too, insect pests may do considerable damage before they are noticed. However, with a little care and attention, good plants can be grown indoors.

We will discuss in a general way the care of a miscellaneous collection of plants such as are usually found in the home, since space does not permit of giving detailed instructions for every kind of plant. All foliage plants such as palms, ferns, rubber plants, etc., and all begonias, do best in a warm room, while geraniums, fuchsias, cyclamens, primulas, hydrangeas, bulbs, etc. prefer a cool spot. These latter are all flowering plants and require as much sunlight as possible. The foliage plants get along fairly well in a darker part of the room, though naturally they should also get as much light as possible. If both kinds are kept in the same room, give the flowering plants the choice positions near the windows.

Light

All plants must have light. Set the pots far enough apart so that the plants do not shade each other, and turn them every day so that they will develop normally and will not grow one-sided.

Watering

Too much water is as bad as too little. The plants should be examined regularly, morning and afternoon, and watered if necessary. If at the afternoon examination the plant, though moist when the soil is felt with the finger, appears likely to be dry before morning, give it the benefit of the doubt and water it anyway. When watering, it is best to put the plant in the sink, water it well, and let it drain before putting it back in the jardiniere. The air in most houses is very dry, and anything that can be done to increase the humidity will benefit the plants.

Ventilation

Plants, like people, need fresh air. Do not, however, simply open the window and let the winter wind in upon the plants. Bring fresh air in by a roundabout way so that it can get warmed before it reaches the plants.

Insects

Red spider, thrips, woolly aphids and scale insects are the common enemies of the foliage plants. Washing the leaves, particularly the under surfaces, with a soft sponge and soapy water every few weeks will keep them in check. Green aphids are the most important pests on the flowering plants, but a treatment with nicotine and soap will get rid of them. Nicotine sulphate can be bought at any seed store. Follow the directions on the bottle and either spray or dip the plants in the solution. If soap is not mentioned in the directions, put one half ounce in each gallon of the mixture. This will help to make the poison stick to the insects.

Feeding

There is not enough nourishment in a small pot of soil to last a growing plant very long, and extra food should be given. There are a number of fertilizers on the market in powder or tablet form which should be used during the growing season. Follow the directions on the box, but do not fertilize during the winter when growth has almost stopped.

Repotting

All plants which are grown on from year to year should be repotted in spring when active growth recommences. Use a soil made up of 4 parts of turfy loam, $1\frac{1}{2}$ parts of well-rotted manure and $1\frac{1}{2}$ parts of sand, all well mixed. Put some stones or pieces of broken plant pots in the bottom of the new pot for drainage, and over this put a layer of sphagnum moss so that the soil will not get into the drainage material. Pack the soil well around the roots of the plant when repotting, using a piece of wood for the purpose.

Summer Treatment

As soon as the weather is warm enough in the spring place the plants outdoors in sheltered positions in the open or in the shade according to the kind of plant. Dig holes for the pots, drop in a few stones for drainage, put the pots in the holes and fill around them with soil. This will save a lot of watering and will reduce the possibility of the pots becoming dry at any time.

Apples for Overseas

The Department of Agriculture warns us that apples or, for that matter, any fresh fruit, should not be put into mixed parcels being sent overseas. Mail service to England is slower these days than in normal times; fresh fruit is likely to be in bad condition by the time the parcel arrives and the rotting fruit may damage the parcel so badly that it cannot be delivered.

Boxes containing nothing but apples may be sent either by mail or by express or freight, but if sent by mail each package must not weigh more than 20 pounds. Express or freight shipments are recommended. There are no weight limits on these when addressed to members of the fighting forces, but shipments to civilians must not exceed 15 pounds. The latter may go forward through trade channels only.

No apples may be sent until a certificate has been obtained from a Dominion Fruit Inspector certifying that the apples are free of disease and do not contain insect pests.

A "BAKER'S DOZEN" MEANS THIRTEEN

More than 500 years ago in the City of London, bakers were required by law to give an extra loaf with each twelve sold. The customer was thus assured of getting full value and the baker avoided the risks of being fined for short weight. From this old law comes the present day "Baker's Dozen", meaning thirteen.

THE QUESTION BOX

Have you any problems that are bothering you? This column is at your disposal. Address your questions to the Editor, Macdonald College, P.Q.

A neighbour of mine has been growing hybrid corn with good results. Will you tell me what hybrid corn is and where it can be bought? E. W.

Answer: When two or more varieties of corn are crossed and the resulting seed is planted the crop it produces is "Hybrid corn". It grows larger, yields better, and may be earlier, more resistant to disease, etc. depending on the varieties used when the cross was made. Hybrid corn seed costs more to produce and is more expensive to buy but only from 12 to 15 pounds of seed are used per acre and yields are high.

Two types of hybrid corn are available. Varietal hybrids come from crossing two ordinary varieties. *Algouguin*, a high yielder in both fodder and ears, is the only one of this type available. It is adapted for short-season parts of Quebec. Double Cross hybrids result from crossing strains which have been selected and inbred for many years. Two of these are recommended for 1941 — Wis. No. 606 and Wis. No. 645. Wis. 606 is adapted for districts where

Wis. No. 7 is now being grown; Wis. 645 will suit localities with a somewhat shorter season.

Hybrid corn seed may be obtained from the seed companies and from the Coopérative Fédérée. Do not save seed from your own crop — the results will not be satisfactory.

Would you recommend feeding iodine to an in-foal mare? Please advise in detail. G. S.

Answer: In most districts in Quebec there is a lack of iodine which is severe enough to affect the health of most classes of stock. The birth of hairless pigs, young lambs with goitre, calves with big neck and foals suffering from joint ill are all signs that the mother's food lacked iodine. Once these conditions have developed the feeding of iodine may be useless. Prevention is better than cure.

The amounts of iodine which must be specially added to the ration will depend somewhat on the class of animal. For horses perhaps the simplest way of supplying this requirement is to feed each in-foal mare daily one tablespoonful of a solution made up by dissolving one ounce of potassium iodide in a gallon of water. This may be poured over the daily allowance of grain.

If weekly feeding of iodine is easier, make the solution with one ounce of potassium iodide in one pint of water, feeding one tablespoonful of this to the mare once a week.

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Ask your dealer for "Miracle" Feeds. They comprise a complete line of rations for all livestock, poultry and fur bearing animals. If there is no dealer near you, write to us asking at the same time for valuable FREE literature on the thrifty feeding of livestock.



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with the dotted
design.**

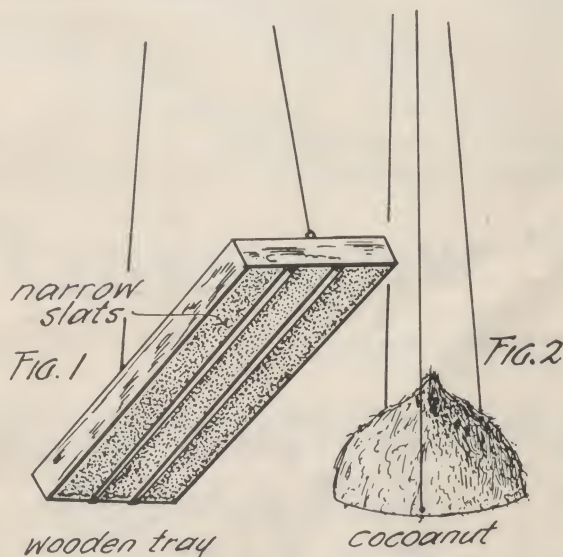
FEEDS DIVISION

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WINTER RATIONS FOR THE BIRDS

by W. E. Whitehead

With the approach of winter, we tend to forget about the wild birds. It is true that most of the species that spent the summer with us have left for warmer parts of the world. However, some birds spend the entire year here and among them are insect-feeding species that are of the utmost value to the farmer and gardener. To mention the most common, there are the hairy and downy woodpeckers, the chickadee and nuthatch. All injurious insects of the farm and garden spend the winter in hibernation in one of their several life-history stages. Some are in the ground and are out of harm's way. Others, however, in the form of eggs and cocoons, may be attached to twigs, or in cracks and crevices of the bark of trees, on buildings, or among rubbish. It is these that are attacked by the birds and large numbers are destroyed during the winter months. Birds, generally, are among the most important of the natural enemies of insects.



It has been found that when a locality is made more attractive to birds during the winter, some of these birds remain and nest in that locality the following spring. The usual form of attraction is food to supplement that supplied by Nature. A mixture that has given satisfaction consists of fat, not suet, but waste fat that the butcher is usually glad to dispose of for the asking. It is melted on the stove, the solid matter is removed and about a pound of bird seed is added for each pound of fat, or, if you can get weed seed from the barn floor, or the threshing mill, it will answer the same purpose. To this are added bread-crumbs sufficient to take up the remainder of the fat. The crumbs must be baked or otherwise thoroughly dried, in order to absorb the fat. Grated cocoanut, rolled oats, or some other prepared cereals may also be added, although they are not necessary. Before the mixture hardens it is packed into a wooden tray, about two inches deep (fig. 1), a half cocoanut shell (fig. 2), a hollow log, or some other

receptacle and hung from a branch of a tree, or put up in some other suitable place. When a tray is used, it should be hung at an angle of about 45 degrees, as shown in the illustration.

There are other methods of feeding birds. Lumps of fat hung in coarse mesh netting, or bones from which all the meat and gristle have not been removed are satisfactory. Breadcrumbs, which are provided by many people who are sympathetic towards the birds in the winter, usually attract the English sparrow and the starling. These birds are not among the most desirable and are very well able to take care of themselves around the farmyard, or on the local garbage pile.

If you have not already done so, try feeding the birds this winter. Once they find your feeding station you will be well repaid by their presence and by watching their habits. We have other winter birds than those mentioned above, but they are mostly immigrants whose movements and habits are sometimes rather uncertain.

Hogs Show Big Gain

Increases in all the principal species of live stock on Canadian farms are noted in an official report issued November 1, 1940, on the 1940 June survey of farm animals. The greatest increase occurred in the number of hogs which reached a record of nearly 5.9 million head, a gain of 37 per cent over the 1939 June estimate of 4,294,000. Cattle on farms, estimated at 8,565,000 head, showed a one per cent increase on 1939. This is the first increase in the numbers of cattle on farms at June since 1934.

For the second year in succession, numbers of horses on farms at June 1 were higher than in the former year, namely, 2,858,000, an increase of 34,000 on the 2,824,000 estimated at June, 1939. Further increases are anticipated in the numbers of horses.

Sheep, estimated at 3,452,000, showed an increase of 86,000 over the number at June, 1939. Hens and chickens increased from 58.5 million to 60.2 million which is the largest number since 1931. Turkeys increased from 2,476,000 at June, 1939, to 2,508,300 at June, 1940. Ducks and geese also showed increases.

Coal to Electricity

Did you know that in 1918 it required about 3½ pounds of coal to manufacture enough electricity to operate a one horse power motor for an hour? To-day with modern stream power plants it requires less than 1½ pounds of coal to do the same work.

The Cost of Electric Power

Suppose the power rate in your district is 3 cents per kilowatt-hour. In that case you can run a sewing machine for 10 hours or a washing machine for 4 hours or a refrigerator for 3 hours for the same amount as it costs to mail a letter, namely 3 cents.

WINTERING THE WOOLLIES

(Continued from page 4)

and unhealthy quarters are provided. The horse barn and the pig pens may be quite satisfactory for horses and pigs, but they seldom prove adequate for sheep.

Care should be exercised to see that the feed racks are properly made to avoid throwing the feed on the wool of the sheep's back and so that the feed does not fall through the rack onto the wool. This results in a dirty fleece of less value and causes unnecessary annoyance to the sheep.

Exercise

Sheep do not thrive in confinement. Regular exercise will make it easier for them to deliver their lambs. The ewes, however, should not be forced to take violent exercise by being driven through deep snow. Scattering hay on the ground some distance from the barn is a device sometimes used to induce exercise when fields and yards are piled high with snow.

With any class of stock, regular attention and care play a big part. This is particularly true of sheep. Detail is often more important than a bag of grain. It costs little but it means a lot. If you are one who has just started, take a pride in raising better lambs. If you have had sheep before try a few of these suggestions and avoid past troubles.

THE OLD GRAY MARE

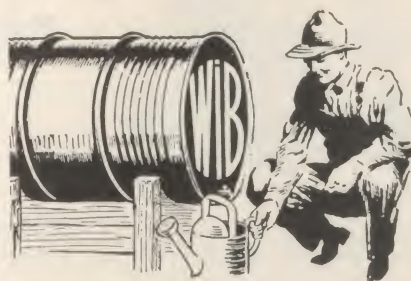
(Continued from page 14)

too often we find that a girl leaves school having had little or no contact with music. In order that she may teach the subject she must not only acquire the necessary knowledge of music but she must learn how to present it. All of this must be achieved during a short course of training. In spite of sympathetic guidance and a course of study planned for quick assimilation of essentials, it often happens that she has not sufficient confidence in her musical ability to teach the subject after graduation. However, the attempt should be made and it will be easier if the teacher acknowledges her lack of skill and enters on a journey of discovery with her pupils.

We have in our schools the future members of church choirs; the future leaders of community singing; the future material for choral groups which can surpass anything we have known heretofore; we have the material for future school teachers. All that is needed to set the wheels in motion are far-seeing parents, teachers and school boards who will cooperate in the forming of "Singing Schools" throughout this Province.

Heat for Electric Brooders

A test conducted in Indiana compares the costs of heating a brooder by coal, kerosene, and electricity. The average hover accommodated 375 chicks. To brood the chicks for 6 weeks it required 850 pounds of coal at \$16.00 per ton, or \$6.74; 37 gallons of kerosene, at 14.4c per gallon, or \$5.32; 105 K.W.H. of electricity at 3c or \$3.14.



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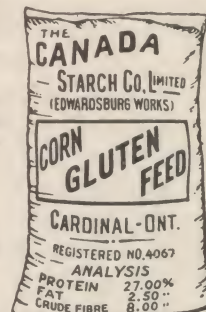
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

EXPANDED OUTLETS FOR CHEESE AND BACON

by J. E. Lattimer

New contracts with Great Britain for the current marketing year have just been announced. Definite provision for the volume of British requirements and the price to be paid for cheese and bacon have been arranged. The contract covers from November first 1940, to October 31st, 1941. Some changes may be noted in the new contract as compared with that of the previous year. The outstanding change from the contract of the past year, in the products included, is the increased quantity contracted for.

Priority of Food Supplies

The word at the moment being used to describe many lines of activity is *priority*. Food products brought into Britain from overseas are now definitely listed according to priority. The list is now as follows: —

1. Wheat and other cereals.
2. Dairy products.
3. Fresh meats.
4. Bacon and other cured meats.
5. Fish canned and frozen.
6. Poultry and eggs.
7. Canned fruits.
8. Canned vegetables.
9. Fresh fruits.

This list shows the importance now attached by Britain to the various classes of food products imported from overseas. The two major farm products for which new contracts have been concluded are cheese and bacon. The terms of agreement on these two products for the current year, November 1940 to October 1941 inclusive, are here presented.

Cheese

The new contract for cheese provides for an increased supply at a rise slightly higher than has prevailed during the past summer season. The price change is not significant, being 14.4 cents per pound at Montreal as compared with 14.0 cents during the past summer season. The quantity required this season is the main change. The new contract is for 112 million pounds, almost one-third more than the quantity arranged for in the preceding season. During the past season the quantity of cheese sent overseas exceeded the amount arranged for. The new contract also provides that if more than the above quantity is available it will be taken.

Bacon

The new bacon contract is for an increased quantity at a lower price per pound. Last year 321 million pounds of bacon sent overseas yielded a net return of \$57.6 million. The contract for the current year is 426.6 million pounds of bacon for \$67.3 million. In addition two million dollars' worth of other pork products are included. Comparison of prices for the current season with that of the year now past are as follows: —

Prices of Wiltshire Sides

	Past Year (Nov. 1939 to Oct. 1940)	Current Year (Nov. 1940 to Oct. 1941)
Grade A	\$18.01 per 100 lbs.	\$15.82 per 100 lbs.
Grade B	17.25 " " "	15.06 " " "

Reasons for the price change accompany the announcement of the terms. One of these reasons is the degree of importance attached to bacon in the priority list given above. It may be noted that bacon comes fourth on the list. It is

COMMON TYPES OF PIG CARCASSES



1.—Undesirable, uneven back fat. 2.—A short, over-finished pig. 3.—A satisfactory carcass for export bacon.

also stated by the Minister of Agriculture that there are some influential officials in Britain who consider even fourth place as too high a rating on the priority list. This contention is based on two counts. One is that bacon costs too much for its food value, and the other that on account of the restricted sources of supply it would be impossible to maintain a worthwhile ration. The other factor influencing the agreement was the increased supplies coming to market. Confronted with the attitude of the consumer that bacon is too costly for its food value and by an expected increase in supply of about one-third, the price was lowered.

The price agreed upon varies with each of the 24 grades of Wiltshire sides enumerated. The following table presents this list of prices.

Prices of Various Grades

(per 100 lbs.)

		45-55 lbs.	55-65 lbs.	65-70 lbs.	70-80 lbs.
GRADE A					
No. 1	Leanest	\$15.90	\$16.10	\$15.70	\$14.70
No. 2	Lean	15.50	15.80	15.30	14.30
No. 3	Prime	15.10	15.30	14.90	13.90
GRADE B					
No. 1	Leanest	15.10	15.35	14.90	13.90
No. 2	Lean	14.55	14.75	14.35	13.35
No. 3	Prime	13.95	14.15	13.75	12.75

It may be noticed from this table that there is a variation from \$14.70 to \$16.10 per 100 pounds in Grade A, No. 1, simply on the difference in weight of the side. The most popular weight of side is from 55 to 65 pounds. Sides lighter than that weight are cut in price and heavier ones suffer a more severe penalty. This list of prices shows the great importance of providing sides of the desired weight. The sides in greatest demand, those from 55 to 65 pounds, come from hogs weighing from 190 to 224 pounds alive. Sides of from 45-55 pounds come from hogs weighing from 155 to 189 pounds alive. The two classes of sides weighing 65 pounds and over, come from hogs weighing 225 pounds and upwards alive. Both lights and heavies are severely penalized. Live hogs are a very perishable product, that is, they have to be disposed of when ready to meet this exacting demand in regard to weight. There are other factors in quality in addition to that of weight which will not be discussed here as all that is intended at this time is to present the terms of the contract for the current year.

Attention Cheesemakers

The Dairy Division advises cheese makers to increase the temperature in their ripening rooms to between 60 and 65 degrees. Cheese is being shipped much faster these days than in normal times, with the greatly increased demand from England, and so that it may be suitable for almost immediate consumption, the cheese should be ripened at a higher temperature. Your local inspector should be consulted,

QUEBEC BOYS WIN AT TORONTO

Place First in Dairy Cattle and Third in Hogs

For the third successive time the junior provincial dairy cattle judging team won first place in competition with teams representing every other province in the Dominion. The team which had been selected at the elimination contests held during the Sherbrooke Exhibition the last week of August consisted of Paul Dubois and Rolland Becotte from the Bécancour club. They were coached by Albert Desrosiers who has conducted three other teams to the Royal show.

The swine team of Valier Voyer and Regent Landry from the St. Alexandre club stood third in the swine contest. Alberta sent two girls who were the winners and Ontario took second place.

Sixty-two club members representing the best from the membership of 47,047 took part in the contest which was held this year in and around Toronto. The contest was one of the most successful held so far. The boys and girls had more contact with the more practical aspects of the farm and farm life. They visited numerous farms including such places as the Shur-gain Farm for pigs, Spruceleigh Farm for poultry, Mr. Henderson's Farm and the Ontario Agricultural College for beef cattle and for dairy cattle, such outstanding places as Don Alda Farms for Guernseys, B. H. Bull and Sons, Brampton, for Jerseys, Leitchcroft Farm at Gormley for Ayrshires and the Hon. G. S. Henry's farm for Holsteins. These trips brought them in close touch with a large section of good farming area in Ontario.

After two strenuous days of judging, the young agriculturists were taken to Hamilton, Niagara Falls and Ottawa on a sightseeing tour. At Ottawa they visited the Central Experimental Farm and were entertained at lunch. Dr. E. S. Archibald, Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms system, was the main speaker and emphasized the importance of proper preparation of our youth in order that they may be able to tackle intelligently the many important problems which will confront our agriculture of the future. He mentioned also some of the problems confronting us to-day and stressed the importance not only of having an abundant supply when this war is over, but also of maintaining the quality to hold our markets and meet the emergency.

At the evening dinner, Dr. G. S. H. Barton, Deputy Minister of the Canadian Department of Agriculture, mentioned the difficulties facing our agricultural youth at present and emphasized the importance of being prepared to meet those difficulties in a logical manner. Cultivate cheerfulness and courage, seek sound advice and be observant. These will go a long way in solving many of our problems.

On the whole the experience was most enjoyable and profitable. Our congratulations to the two Quebec teams who did so well.

L. H. H.

"DAVID"

by A. Letourneau

We see from the English newspapers that their agricultural shows have all been cut down, both in numbers and in importance, "for the duration." A little time might well be spent in discussing England, with the eyes of the world fixed upon her in her time of trial.

Chesterton claims that the English as a whole lead lonely lives, close to nature, and that they try to alleviate their loneliness by an inordinate affection for simple things, even childish things, as witness the earnestness with which they pursue certain types of sport.

A member of the Department of Agriculture who has perhaps the best knowledge of rural England is Mr. Adrien Morin. During the course of several trips to the old country he has visited many of their best farms and has been to Scotland to buy animals for our breeders' associations. Others, including Prof. Fontaine of Oka have also been across.

Mr. Charron, formerly Assistant-Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa tells the following story. He was representing Canada at two European conferences and was one day invited to the home of a large landowner in Kent. It was in the fall, just after a regional meeting which had been attended by the "gentry" of the district. There were a lot of other guests and in the smoking room after dinner one of them, apparently somebody of considerable importance, was talking to the host.

"What is the latest news of David? How is he getting along?"

"Very well, thanks."

"You know, the last time I saw him I thought he was a little thick-necked; too many turnips, perhaps."

"You shouldn't judge by outward appearances."

"I know, but I thought he had a sort of apathetic look in his eye — I think he is overeating."

"Not a bit of it! David is in the pink. I am beginning to wonder if you felt his hide with your gloves on."

"Certainly not. I will admit that his nose was damp, though; that's a good sign."

"You see — you can't help admiring him. From his head to his tail, he is the best in the country."

"While they were talking about the look in the eye and the fat neck," said Mr. Charron, "I thought they were discussing some kindly old gentleman, but when they started feeling his skin and his nose, I admit I was stumped."

And do you know who this David was? He was a bull! David IV was the fourth generation of a line of Herefords all of whom had been almost members of the family. David IV, in fact, was almost a close relative, and very

few visitors to the house got away without seeing and admiring him.

We can learn a lesson from this story. No one who does not love animals can be a good stockman. But it is the English stockmen who are the hardest hit by the cutting down of the fairs, for they are the backbone of the English fair. The English are horsemen and stock breeders par excellence, and the best races of cattle and sheep are of British origin. So are the two leading races of swine. A love of domestic animals is innate in the British character, as Mr. Charron's story has illustrated.

A large proportion of the English aristocracy, by the way, keep up beautiful estates and take a very active interest in raising stock, in rather sharp contrast to our own wealthier citizens, who are not often to be found in the dust of our show rings. Over there, many of the nobility make a rendezvous of the judging arena and take an active interest in the animals on display, not for the sake of appearances but because they like it. Andre Maurois tells about a certain lord who was entitled to hold some honorary post so long as his cattle were the best in the district. His reputation in the eyes of his fellow citizens depended on the condition of his stock. Another was known to rise in his seat in Parliament and announce, to the applause of his fellow-members in the House, the fact that his hogs had taken first prize.

Here in Canada many of our farmers have that understanding and affection for their animals, often inherited from their parents, but the great majority lack it. They tolerate their animals but are not particularly fond of them.

So treat them kindly when they are in their winter quarters; learn to feed them properly and select them carefully. These are not idle words—what we are trying to explain is that if you really love your animals you will enjoy looking after them. And the extra care and attention they will get, will increase their value to you and will take the concrete form of higher returns for your labour.

AYRSHIRES QUALIFY IN R.O.P.

During November 263 Ayrshire cows and heifers qualified in the R. O. P. — 109 in the 365 day division and 154 in the Honour Roll, or 305 day division.

The following are the Quebec owners whose cattle qualified: Emile Bonin, St. Denis; Wm. Clarke Estate, Shawbridge; R. R. Ness & Sons, Howick; J. P. Beauchemin, Verchères; G. McMillan, Huntingdon; E. Wagg, Mount Albert; Provincial Dairy School; W. W. Skinner, Senneville, School of Agriculture, Ste. Anne de la Pocatière.

THE SEED SITUATION FOR 1941

A statement on the probable available supply and needs of seed for 1941 seeding was recently made to the Quebec Seed Board, by a special committee appointed for this purpose. It contains information that may prove of interest and value to readers of the Journal. Below is given a brief summary covering the more important crops in Quebec.

Oats

The supply and needs of seed oats in Quebec appears on the whole to be normal and satisfactory in general. In two sections only is the crop considerably below normal. In the Lake St. John district the crop is some ten percent less than last year, but there will still be considerable quantities for sale to other districts. The area with the greatest shortage is in the lower St. Lawrence, where the yield is some 30 to 35 percent below that of 1939. This was due largely to the extremely dry weather. The counties mainly affected are Riviere du Loup, Rimouski, and Temiscouata. There will thus be a greater need than usual for seed oats in this section.

Barley

The barley crop produced in Quebec in 1940 was somewhat smaller than usual, but there would appear to be no great difficulty in obtaining a satisfactory supply of seed of this crop.

Timothy

The estimated production of timothy seed in Quebec in 1940 is 325,000 lbs. This is much lower than normal. The total amount of timothy seed available in Canada including carry-over from 1939 is estimated at 5,538,000 pounds. This compares with an estimated seed requirement of Canadian farmers of 10,000,000 pounds. This means that large quantities will have to be imported, and the probability is that the price may be somewhat high.

Red Clover

Approximately 250,000 pounds of red clover seed were produced in Quebec in 1940. The total Canadian production is estimated at 3,500,000 pounds which, together with a carry over from 1939, will make available approximately 5,000,000 pounds. This compares with a normal seed requirement of around 4,500,000 pounds. There should thus be a sufficient supply for 1941 seeding unless the area seeded is greater than usual.

Alsike Clover

The Canadian production of Alsike clover for 1940 is extremely low, being estimated at 924,000 pounds compared with a ten year average of 3,300,000 pounds. There is practically no carry over from 1939 and the normal requirements for seed are estimated at 2,000,000. Normally, large quantities of alsike clover are exported, but this year there would appear to be a great shortage without allowing for any to be exported.

Alfalfa

In recent years Canada has been producing large quantities of alfalfa seed for export as well as supplying her own needs. In 1940 the production is estimated at 4,500,000 pounds. While somewhat less than last year, it will more than meet our normal requirements of approximately 3,200,000 pounds. There will thus be an adequate supply with a considerable quantity available for export.

No one can claim that the data given above are entirely accurate, for there is much threshing and cleaning that is not yet done. The final results may be considerably higher or lower, depending on how the crops thresh out, and also upon how much has to be removed in cleaning and grading to produce seed that will measure up to the requirements of the seed grades. However, while only estimates, they are probably sufficiently accurate to give a picture of the general situation regarding each crop that will be of use to farmers in contemplating plans for the 1941 seeding.

R. S.

AGRONOMISTS HOLD CONFERENCE



MR. J. A. PROULX

"Quebec yields to no other province in the quality of help given to her farmers by the agronomic service," Mr. Morin stated in his opening remarks to the conference of agronomes held in Quebec last month. "Our farmers have at their disposal a corps of trained technicians who understand all phases of agricultural production."

The meetings were presided over by the chief of the agronomic service, Mr. J. A. Proulx, and much interesting matter was discussed during the four-day conference. Attention was given to improving the organization of the junior clubs and Mr. Auger, chief of the field Husbandry Service, outlined the part that the agronome should play in helping those who plan to enter farm competitions.

Mr. Auger also announced that his department would start, in a few counties next spring, a programme to increase the amount of tillable land by removing stones and stumps and by improving drainage. He announced that a statement about flax production may be expected from the Department next spring.

Mr. Ferron urged the agronomes to keep in touch with co-operatives in their districts — not to tell the farmers how to run their businesses but to be ready with advice when necessary.

The new carcass grading regulations for hogs came in for a lot of discussion. Opinion was that farmers as a whole are not satisfied by the new arrangement. However the regulations are here to stay, and a little study of them will show that they really will be of great service to hog raisers. Our hog business is based on exports and we must conform to the demands of the British market.

The corn borer situation was discussed thoroughly, and plans for a province-wide "clean up week" of corn fields, probably about the beginning of June, were made.

THE 1940 QUEBEC APPLE CROP

The close of November saw the onset of winter throughout most of this province, and also the completion of apple packing. Indeed, this year will be remembered as one in which the Quebec McIntosh crop was picked, and largely packed and marketed, by the end of October. There are still light to moderate supplies in warehouses and cold storage, awaiting more substantial prices, but these throughout the province do not approach the late fall carry-over of the previous year.

Canadian Crop Low this Year

The 1940 Canadian apple crop is estimated to show a reduction of 35-40% this year. This is much the same estimated reduction as for the Quebec crop; the only Canadian apple district not showing a substantial drop in production this year is British Columbia, where the crop is about the same as in 1939. The reduction in Quebec is somewhat more than was estimated at first, due to the fact that dry summer weather prevented McIntosh and Fameuse from reaching the normal size range, although quality was good. The proportion of boxed apples in the 100's and 125's was much smaller this year than for many years, the majority of apples ranging from 138's to 175's in boxes.

Peaches Depress the Market

The Montreal market, by far Canada's largest, suffered this year from very heavy supplies of Ontario peaches, many carloads of which were of dubious quality on arrival or shortly after, due to the Brown Rot organism. This disease thrives during wet weather, and the growing season in Ontario was very wet, in direct contrast to that in Quebec. The Ontario peaches ripened very quickly, thus crowding the canneries to such an extent that they could absorb only a small proportion; much of the remainder was shipped to

Montreal. The large quantity and generally low quality of these peaches had a depressing effect on the apple market which continued for several weeks.

Quebec Growers' Market Early

The Montreal district apple growers have always been somewhat inclined to market their crops soon after they are picked, but they did so to a greater extent than usual this season. The reason for this is probably because the zoning (or restricted selling areas) of Canada's apple districts, which was so effectively put into effect in 1939, was not applied in 1940, so that growers and wholesalers were somewhat afraid of a swamped market when unrestricted shipping of British Columbia and Nova Scotian apples began to take place. Such rapid pushing of Quebec McIntosh resulted in a somewhat lower price than usual, although not disastrously so, by any means.

Quebec boxed McIntosh consistently sold for more than the B.C. fruit, being marketed at prices ranging from \$1.60 — \$2.25 for Extra Fancy, and \$1.35 — \$2.00 for Fancy. No. 1 and Domestic grades, in hampers and crates, sold at from \$1.25 — \$2.00 for 1's, and \$1.10 — \$1.75 for Domestic. There is a wide range in the prices just quoted, and the emphasis perhaps should be placed on the lower quotations, but throughout the month of November, prices on Quebec and B.C. apples steadily improved.

Apple growers in Quebec have marketed a considerably smaller crop than in 1939, but have done so in open competition with fruit from Ontario and British Columbia, and to a lesser extent from Nova Scotia. The prices received have been anything but discouraging, and growers are pursuing their plans to advertise the proved high quality of Quebec apples, as an aid in disposing of the 1940 crop, and as a safeguard for 1941.

R. J. H.

The Corn Borer Again

Entomologists from all over Canada met in conference recently at the request of the Dominion Entomologist, Dr. Gibson, to study the problem of the corn borer from every angle and to try to find some means of preventing epidemics such as we had this season. Experts from both Canada and the United States are studying the biology of this insect, trying to find some means of controlling it, so that our corn growers will be able to harvest a crop.

The Quebec delegation to the conference included Messrs. George Maheux, George Gauthier, Pellerin Lagloire and Bruno Landry.

Care of a Rope

If a rope is stiff and difficult to handle, it may be made soft and flexible by boiling it for a short time in a pan of water. When drying the rope, stretch it out straight so that it will be free from twists and kinks.

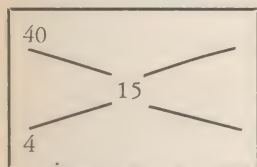
The only disadvantage of this treatment is that the boiling will remove some of the tar or other preservatives.

FIGURING IT OUT

There is a simple way of finding out how much milk and cream should be mixed together to make a mixture with a certain butterfat content. It is necessary of course to know the butterfat content of the milk and cream being mixed.

For example, a creamery worker wants 100 pounds of cream testing 15%. He has on hand cream testing 40% and milk testing 4%. How much of each should be mixed? This can be calculated by Fuller's Rule, as follows:—

Draw a figure as below, and in the upper left hand corner put the percent butterfat in the cream (40%). In the lower left hand corner put the percent butterfat in the milk (4%). In the centre put the percent butterfat wanted in the mixture (15%). Subtract along the diagonals, disregarding signs.



$(4-15)=11$ lbs of 40% cream

$(40-15)=25$ lbs of 4% milk

—
36 lbs of 15% cream

From this we see that 11 lbs of 40% cream and 25 lbs of 4% milk when mixed will give 36 lbs of 15% cream. To get 100 lbs of 15% cream, therefore, it would require $11/36 \times 100$ or $30-5/9$ lbs of the 40% cream and $25/36 \times 100$ or $69-4/9$ lbs of the 15% milk.

BULL PENS AND EXERCISING YARDS

A good bull pen and exercising yard is a sound investment for a dairy farm. With strong and convenient accommodation, bulls can be handled to a greater age without any danger.

Some farmers prefer to have the bull pen in the cow stable for convenience in feeding and handling the bull in winter. There are some disadvantages, however, in this arrangement. One is the fly problem in summer, unless the pen is cleaned out daily. Another is that in order to have an exercising yard an outside door to the pen is necessary. Unless this is kept in good repair and well fitted, too much cold air gets into the stable during the winter. Another disadvantage is that most barns are so situated that an exercising yard of sufficient size cannot be made to run off conveniently from any part of the stable.

An outside shed with an exercising yard is the most satisfactory way to housing a bull. The shed should be strongly built on a concrete foundation, with a small feed room at one end and preferably a loft for hay or straw. A slide door is convenient for closing during cold and stormy weather, and also for closing the bull out when the pen is

being cleaned. The fence around the exercising yard must be strongly built. A breeding chute with a gate can be made at one side. With all these conveniences a bull does not have to be handled.

Some bulls cause trouble by breaking the exercising yard fence. With such a bull a cable can be strung out from the pen and the bull tethered to it through the nose ring and a chain long enough to allow the bull to lie down. However, bulls rarely exercise themselves much when tethered to a cable. One way of overcoming the use of a cable is to put a strand of electrified barb wire just on the inside of the fence. Where several bulls are kept, a single strand electric fence has proven sufficient as an inside fence to keep bulls separated from each other. Sometimes a good big log thrown in the exercising yard serves as a means of exercising a bull and prevents him from ruining the fences. If gravel or sharp cinders are kept in the exercising yard the bull's feet will be kept in better shape and need not be trimmed, or at least so often.

Plans of a bull pen and exercising yard can be obtained from the Animal Husbandry Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ontario.

Using a Grinding Wheel

When wood chisels are sharpened on an emery wheel they often burn very easily. Occasionally this is caused by metal dust in the wheel. If the emery is resurfaced by using a rotating dresser the burning will be greatly reduced.

More Gasoline from Crude Oil

During the last World War the methods of recovering gasoline from crude petroleum were much less efficient than those used today. At that time only 20 gallons of gasoline were obtained from 100 gallons of crude oil from the oil wells. Today, with the modern process of cracking oil, it is possible to obtain more than 70 gallons of gasoline from each 100 gallons of crude oil.

Would You Farm the Old Way?

In 1830, when grain was sown by hand and harvested with a cradle, it required 55.7 hours of labor for each acre of land producing a crop. With the use of the horse-drawn drill and binder, it required 8.8 hours of man labor. Today, when using machines such as combines and tractors, it only requires 3.3 hours of labor to produce an acre of grain.

Home and School Councils

Study outlines dealing with the history, organization and work of Home and School Councils are now available, free, on application to the Journal. Send your name and address to The Journal, Macdonald College, P.Q.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

News of the College — Staff, Students, Graduates

ALUMNI

We are devoting the College Page this month to notes about the doings and present whereabouts of some of our former students. More items will appear in later issues. Have you any interesting information about your classmates or friends? We would be glad to pass the news along to our readers.

* * *

E. C. Bain, '38, has an interesting job with the Department of Transport. He supervises preparation of the land and seeding of all new airports being built in Canada, and travels from one end of the country to the other by air. He was in the office a few weeks ago and told us that although he has flown over the college several times this summer, he had had no chance to drop in to call on us.

* * *

Three Lessard brothers have graduated from the School for Teachers. Edouard, '28, is a headmaster in Montreal. George, '28, is on the staff of Westmount, and Geoffrey, '30, who is qualified as a French Specialist, was appointed assistant inspector of schools. His work takes him to all parts of the province to help and encourage the better teaching of French.

* * *

Among those who attended the "listening group" conference early this month were Bob Reid, '18, Neil Drummond, '28, Alex. Bothwell, '17 and Charles Dalton, '31.

* * *

A note in the Canadian Ayreshire Review tells us that Joe Lanthier, '25, manager of Leitchcroft Farm at Gormley, Ont., has been appointed Secretary of the Toronto District Ayreshire Breeders' Club. Incidentally, the "Review" calls him a graduate of O.A.C.

* * *

Frances Graham, B.H.S. '38, is the college dietitian, and all the comments we have heard about the meals she prepares have been most complimentary.

* * *

Eleanor Bickley Mott, Teachers '30, offered her services to the educational authorities at Dehra, Dun, India, taught there for a year or two and married. Her husband has gone back to England to enlist and she is carrying on in a preparatory school in India.

Robertine Harquail, B.H.S. '36, will be leaving for overseas with the Canadian Hospital Unit soon. She took her training at the Montreal General Hospital, has been assistant dietitian at the King Edward Hospital at Hamilton, Bermuda, and was for a time on the staff of St. Francis Xavier University.

* * *

T. N. Beaupre, '39, is the college athletic director, and assistant warden of the Men's Residence. In his spare time he does post-graduate work in Horticulture toward a Master's degree.

* * *

R. D. Gilbert, '35, is a district representative for the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture with headquarters in Moncton.

* * *

G. H. Hammond, '22, is at Mac. on leave from the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Entomology Division. He is working on the anatomy and biology of the white grub for a Ph.D. thesis.

* * *

Dorothy Stobie, Teachers '34, went to Val d'Or after teaching in Westmount for a few years. The north, with its urgent need for schools, offers wonderful opportunities for an enthusiastic teacher, and Dorothy was instrumental in getting a fine new building equipped with modern furniture and materials.

* * *

Wellington Paige, a former diploma student, has been in England over a year; he went over as an R. C. M. P. with the first contingent.

* * *

If you are at the college 25 years from now drop in to see the blossom on the 75-year old century plant which D. L. McClintock, '13, recently donated.

* * *

Jean MacLeod, Teachers '40, carried off many of the prizes when she graduated. She is teaching at Val d'Or with Miss Stobie — a splendid combination which should bring good results.

* * *

Vic Dawson, '28, wrote us a few days ago from Malaya, where he is principal of the School of Agriculture. Mrs. Dawson (K. V. Chisholm, B.H.S. '28) is in Malaya with him.

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